

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of

Petition Requesting Reduction RM-8436
in Number of Amateur Service
Operator License Classes.

ORDER

Adopted: May 13, 1994; Released: May 20, 1994

By the Acting Deputy Chief, Private Radio Bureau:

1. On January 28, 1994, The Cass County Amateur Radio Club (CCARC) filed a petition for rule making requesting that the amateur service rules be amended to retain only the Novice, Technician, and General Operator Classes from the present five class license structure.

2. The petitioner would, in effect, combine the present Amateur Extra, Advanced, and General Class operators together with those Technician Class operators who have demonstrated telegraphy skill. They would have full operator privileges. The key contention of CCARC is that the majority of amateur operators are dissatisfied with the current operator license class structure. The CCARC states that most other countries already have a three class license structure.

3. We believe, however, that the views previously expressed by members of the amateur service community through thousands of comments in numerous rule making proceedings continue to be valid. Hence, in our view, the amateur community, by and large, is satisfied with the current structure, the fundamental purpose of which is the encouragement and improvement of the amateur service in the United States through rules that provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.¹ We do not, therefore, believe that the arguments that the petitioner has submitted warrant revisiting the matter at this time.²

4. In view of the foregoing, and pursuant to Section 1.401(e) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.401(e), rule making petition RM-8436 is repetitive and IS DENIED.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Robert H. McNamara
Acting Deputy Chief
Private Radio Bureau

¹ See Section 97.1(c) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 97.1(c).

² The petitioner also requested that the holder of a Technician or General Class Operator license be authorized to be the

control operator of a space station. The Rules, however, already permit the holder of any class of amateur operator license to be the control operator of a space station. See Section 97.207(a) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 97.207(a).